



DODGE COUNTY EXTENSION EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF THE DODGE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING

July 20, 2020

The Dodge County Extension Education Committee of the Dodge County Board of Supervisors met Monday, July 20, 2020 at 8:30 a.m. on the 1st floor Auditorium in the Dodge County Administration Building, 127 East Oak Street, Juneau, WI.

CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Allen Behl – District 19, called the meeting to order at 8:34 a.m. noting a quorum was in place with the following members present: Naomi Kriewald – District 9, Travis Schultz – District 25, and Annette Thompson – Dodge County School District Superintendent (present via Zoom).

Absent were Jennifer Hedrick – District 22 and Travis Schultz – District 25.

Also present: Area Extension Director Jeff Hoffman and Extension Dodge County department lead Tracy Malterer.

Also present via Zoom: Pattie Carroll, Human Development & Relationships Educator; Kimberly Lafler, FoodWise Nutrition Educator; Caitlin Richardson, FoodWise Nutrition Coordinator; Marie Witzel, 4-H Youth Development Educator; Amanda Young, Dairy and Livestock Educator; and Joe Zimbric, Crops and Soils Educator.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion by Kriewald, second by Thompson to approve the June 15, 2020 minutes as printed. Motion Carried 3-0.

REVIEW OF DEPARTMENT REVENUE AND EXPENSES: Review of the Division of Extension - Dodge County revenues and expenses for July 2020 as presented. The Committee also reviewed the department's year-to-date budget report. Hoffman reviewed each of the four budget sections in regards to operations and educational programming. He also highlighted the reduction in mileage and operational expenses since the COVID disruption to in-person Extension programs. Hoffman noted that limited in-person educational programming has resumed while virtual programming has increased. Hoffmann will be presenting a preliminary 2021 budget draft to the Committee in August.

APPROVAL OF PER DIEMS OF EXTENSION EDUCATION COMMITTEE FOR JULY 20, 2020: Chairperson Behl reviewed the per diem sheets as listed. Motion by Kriewald, second by Thompson to approve per diems as presented. Motion carried 3-0.

UPDATE ON DIVISION OF EXTENSION BY AREA EXTENSION DIRECTOR: Hoffman shared Extension's *Return to Workplaces & Programming Plan* outlining policy, training, safety planning, and workflow approval processes for in-person programming. Hoffman also share the COVID-19 Response from the Positive Youth Development Institute which described how Extension faculty, researchers, staff, and educators are responding to the pandemic with youth in 4-H programs, providing career exploration pathways, and offering multiple opportunities for youth leadership and youth voice across Wisconsin communities.

SHORT ORAL REPORTS BY EXTENSION EDUCATORS:

Pattie Carroll, Human Development & Relationships Educator – Carroll reported that she continues to convert traditional face-to-face programming to online formats. She wrapped up a Virtual Parent Cafe and is currently conducting an evaluation for the six-week program. Look for an impact report for the program soon. Carroll also reported that she currently teaching a stress reduction program called *Taking Care of You*, open to the public. She is also part of a cohort offering a Train-the-Trainer on the *Taking Extension Education Committee Minutes*

Care of You curriculum for Extension colleagues. This is an important way to build capacity especially during this extremely stressful time. Finally, Carroll writes social media and website articles called "Pattie's Parenting Tips," and she is developing a parenting/family newsletter to be published this fall.

Kimberly Lafler, FoodWise Educator – Lafler reported continued progress on curriculum work groups that she is working with to adapt lessons to a virtual platform in order to engage participants of all ages. Specifically she is working with *Food Smarts*, a curriculum geared toward teens and adults; and *Seniors Eat Well*, which is the curriculum she piloted in Dodge County two years ago. FoodWise across the state is working at adapting many different curricula used in a way that engages our participants of all ages and does not burden the workload of our partners at this time.

Caitlin Richardson, FoodWise Coordinator - Caitlin Richardson is serving on two FoodWise curriculum work groups. These groups are working on how to better format in-person lessons as well as working to convert in-person content into digital content. Richardson provided an update on the *Growing Together Garden* grant. This grant will be used to build garden beds in Beaver Dam, with the produce going to the Central Wisconsin Community Action Coalition (CWCAC) Beaver Dam Food Pantry. The project was approved for funding, however, there were new guidelines provided on how to proceed with the project for this growing season. Richardson spoke with her partners (The Playground Movement and Blue Zones Project of Dodge County) and the group decided to wait to start the project until next year. One of the main motives to have the gardens in the area was to build a sense of community by having the community work together to build, maintain and harvest the gardens. With the guidelines provided, this would not be possible due to health and safety reasons. By waiting until next year to build the gardens, the group will (hopefully) be able to not only provide healthy fresh produce to Beaver Dam residents but also be able to build the sense of community. All of the partners were okay with postponing the project. Lastly, Richardson is working with current partners to assess their needs both current and with future programming. FoodWise is able to offer partners with several different programming opportunities for the upcoming fiscal year and we are reconnecting with partners to see which option would work best for them in their space.

Marie Witzel, 4-H Youth Development Educator – Marie Witzel reported on the Positive Youth Development including the 4-H Leaders Association which gives the club leaders a chance to learn more about virtual meetings along with the actual meeting. During the meeting the broadband issues came to light again as leaders would drop off and need to be re-admitted. This is one of the largest issues with clubs having virtual meetings in Dodge County. Witzel also shared the Thrive full evaluation program that she has been involved with in Wisconsin. The team has been asked by their Institute director to share information with Nevada 4-H staff. She also taught with Amanda Young on Friday for the WI Joint Conference of Extension Professionals program to colleagues about break out boxes that Young made virtual.

Amanda Young, Dairy and Livestock Educator – Young discussed three of the programs she has been working on. This first was finalizing and certifying the Youth Tractor Safety Program, Young, along with Joe Zimbric (Crops & Soils educator), hosted the driving test portion of the certification allowing them to certify 30 Dodge County area youth. Next Young discussed a social media education project that she is leading called "Small Flock 'Nuggets'" where her team is developing educational "nuggets" directed at small flock poultry raisers to help them with their poultry knowledge. These nuggets will cover topics including health, nutrition, harvest, and weather care. Finally, Young discussed her involvement in the state dairy team's heat stress programming. Young is developing factsheets and videos for animal handling in time of heat stress, and the effects of heat stress on dairy reproduction.

Joe Zimbric, Crops and Soils Educator – Joe Zimbric has been developing his Crops and Soils program during the month of July. He has continued to assist forage researchers at the UW-Madison in an on-going alfalfa survey, and he has been helping to coordinate the Wisconsin Alfalfa Yield and Persistence

Project. Zimbric has also been actively involved in UW-Extension Crops and Soils program strategic planning process, where he works with other county-based educators on developing programming for climate change, soil health, and alternative cropping systems. In relation to alternative cropping systems, Zimbric has joined a group of educators to develop, "The Cutting Edge," which is a podcast that is being developed to highlight, promising new alternative crops and novel production practices.

NEXT MEETING DATE: The next regularly scheduled Extension Education Committee meeting is Monday, August 17, 2020 at 8:30 a.m. in the 1st Floor Auditorium of the Dodge County Administration Building at 127 East Oak Street, Juneau, Wisconsin.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before this Committee, the meeting was adjourned by Chairperson Behl at 9:26 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Naomi Kriewald, Secretary



Allen Behl, Chairperson